Improvement of green cover in the country

1827. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to improve the green cover and forest land in the country;

(b) the total funds allocated during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the list of afforestation projects carried out in various States both by the Central and State Governments as well as by external funding agencies through NGO's and VO's; and

(d) the total increase in the forest cover in various States during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has taken several steps to improve the green cover and development of forests in the country. It is implementing a major scheme namely, the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining areas. The scheme is being implemented through a two-tier decentralized institutional set-up of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level. In addition, the Ministry is also implementing the Grants-in-Aid for Greening India Scheme for awareness generation production of quality tree planting material, and tree planting through various agencies, including non-governmental organization and voluntary organization. The State-wise number of projecs and funds released during last 3 years 2004-05 to 2006-07 under the schemes is given in enclosed Statement-I and II (*See* below). As regards tree planting by various agencies, this Ministry monitors the progress of tree planting under Twenty Point-Programme only at the State/Union Territory level. The progress of tree planting during last three years (2004-05 to 2006-07) under items 16A and 16B of the Twenty Point Programme—1986 was as follows:—

year	Item 16A (Tree plantation on private land) (Seedling in lakhs)	Item 16B (Area covered on public and forest land) (Area in hectare)
	Achievement	Achievement
2004-05	9076.10	1126115.00
2005-06	10265.33	1485613.00
2006-07	13218.48	1655727.00

(d) The Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun is making assessment of forest cover the country on a 2-year cycle. As per the State of Forest Reports (SFRs) published by the FSI, the extent of forest cover in the country is as follow:—

(Area in Km^2)

Year of SFR	Forest Cover (Km^2)	Forest Cover as per cent of geographical area	% change
1999	637,293	19.39	(+) 0.12
2001	675,538	20.55	(+) 1.16
2003	678,333	20.64	(+) 0.09

Statement-I

Year-wise and State-wise number of project sanctioned and funds released under National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme during last three years
(2004-05 to 2006-07)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Projects Sanctioned			Amount Released (Rs. in Crores)		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	3		14.21	7.08	11.06
2.	Chhattisgarh	3	3		17.50	17.63	13.05
3.	Gujarat	4	5		8.77	12.05	17.52
4.	Haryana	1	2		7.46	4.35	9.20
5.	Himachal Pradesh	8	0	3	10.60	9.08	11.56
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0		3.56	5.28	5.83
7.	Karnataka	6	4		21.17	23.03	23.54
8.	Madhya Pradesh	14	5	2	17.18	12.61	15.83
9.	Maharashtra	8	4		13.12	14.69	15.93
10.	Orissa	4	8		11.26	12.05	14.07
11.	Punjab	1	4	1	0.14	3.97	3.36
12.	Rajasthan	3	17		4.80	7.26	5.62
13.	Tamil Nadu	6	1		14.06	20.92	17.22
14.	Uttar Pradesh	2	2		18.16	17.04	11.88
15.	Uttarakhand	10	7	1	10.54	13.10	11.52
16.	Goa	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Jharkhand	6	3	2	8.66	7.85	19.03
18.	Bihar	2	3		2.74	3.42	4.94
19.	Kerala	1	10		1.04	4.99	12.75
20.	West Bengal	3	1		6.03	5.92	7.00
	TOTAL (Other States):	87	82	9	191.00	202.32	230.92
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	6		0.76	2.89	2.93
22.	Assam	7	5		7.99	5.50	13.60
23.	Manipur	1	1	1	5.43	6.30	7.78
24.	Nagaland	0	0	2	5.60	5.37	7.22
25.	Sikkim	0	0		3.94	6.23	7.41
26.	Tripura	3	0	1	4.53	4.27	4.37
27.	Mizoram	0	0	2	11.20	10.06	13.09
28.	Meghalaya	7	0		2.45	5.18	5.44
	TOTAL (NE States):	18	12	6	42.00	45.80	61.83
	G. TOTAL:	105	94	15	233.00	248.12	292.75

Statement-II

Year-wise and State-wise number of project sanctioned and funds released under Grants-in-Aid for Greening India Scheme during last three years (2004-05 *to* 2006-07)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Projects Sanctioned			Amount Released (Rs. in Crores)		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	10	0	0.48	0.34	0.00
2.	Chhattisgarh	1	0	0	0.04	0.00	0.00
3.	Gujarat	13	9	0	0.44	0.33	0.00
4.	Haryana	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	2	0	1	0.02	0.00	0.02
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	6	0	0.00	0.18	0.00
7.	Karnataka	0	3	0	0.00	0.10	0.00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	5	5	6	0.20	0.20	0.21
9.	Maharashtra	9	0	0	0.24	0.00	0.00
10.	Orissa	14	12	8	0.86	0.67	0.42
11.	Punjab	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Rajasthan	10	15	3	0.35	0.72	0.15
13.	Tamil Nadu	12	7	0	0.35	0.20	0.00
14.	Uttar Pradesh	15	13	7	0.70	0.60	0.32
15.	Uttarakhand	13	9	5	0.53	0.39	0.21
16.	Goa	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Jharkhand	4	0	0	0.13	0.00	0.00
18.	Bihar	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Kerala	5	0	0	0.14	0.00	0.00
20.	West Bengal	5	3	5	0.20	0.15	0.25
	TOTAL (Other States):	121	92	35	4.68	3.88	1.58
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	6	1	0.40	0.33	0.05
22.	Assam	7	3	1	0.31	0.15	0.05
23.	Manipur	14	7	1	0.56	0.35	0.05
24.	Nagaland	15	10	1	0.60	0.52	0.05
25.	Sikkim	0	1	0	0.00	0.04	0.00
26.	Tripura	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Mizoram	14	0	0	0.56	0.00	0.00
28.	Meghalaya	11	5	1	0.47	0.28	0.05
	TOTAL (NE States):	72	32	5	2.90	1.67	0.25
	G. TOTAL:	193	124	40	7.58	5.55	1.83